

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed August 29, 2006 has been carefully considered.

Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant hereby requests acknowledgement of the Information Disclosure Statement filed August 19, 2004.

The 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph Rejection

Claims 1, 6, 9, 13, 14, 19, 22, 26, 27, 32, 35 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter applicant regards as the invention.

In regard to the Examiner's rejections contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the current office action, Applicants have amended the claims accordingly in order to more distinctly claim the invention.

In regard to the Examiner's rejections contained in paragraph 4 of the current office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the limitation "shorter" does not render the claim indefinite. The utterance data is defined through out the specification as being shorter than the voice data indicating the voice (see specification, page 5, lines 7 – 20, and page 17, lines 1 – 8).

The standard for ascertaining the requisite degree is the voice data that indicates the voice. Utterance data is shorter than the voice data that indicates the voice. This is clear from the specification, drawings, and claims as originally filed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

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